House Resolution No. 70

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives are proud to recognize an outstanding individual who has brought exceptional dedication and steadfast commitment to the Missouri Department of Corrections; and

Whereas, Corrections Officer I Linda Heightman of the Northeast Correctional Center (NECC) in Bowling Green, Missouri, will be presented the Missouri Department of Corrections Lifesaver Award on February 20, 2003, at the NECC; and

Whereas, the Missouri Department of Corrections Lifesaver Award recognizes and honors employees who have stepped in and taken extraordinary actions to save the lives of other persons, be it colleagues, visitors, or offenders, in the workplace; and

Whereas, on September 14, 2002, CO I Heightman and three of her fellow officers were traveling to work at the NECC when they came upon a major traffic accident involving two vehicles and eight individuals; and

Whereas, CO I Heightman and the other officers immediately secured the accident scene and began to assist three individuals, one of whom was a three-year-old boy, who were trapped in one of the two cars involved in the accident; and

Whereas, CO I Heightman used her cellular phone to contact the Pittsfield Fire and Rescue Department while the other officers worked to remove the child and a badly injured woman from the front seat of the crushed vehicle; and

Whereas, CO I Heightman's performance of her duties reflects the dedication, pride, and professionalism which she has brought to her many assignments since joining the Missouri Department of Corrections on May 9, 2000; and

Whereas, a graduate of Pittsfield High School and two-time recipient of the Department's Dudley Award, CO I Heightman considers herself most fortunate for the continual love and support of her wonderful family which includes her devoted husband, Recreation Officer I Gary "Joe" Heightman, and her son, Dalton:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, unanimously join together with Director Gary B. Kempker and the Missouri Department of Corrections in a thunderous round of applause for CO I Linda Heightman at this proud moment of well-deserved distinction; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Corrections Officer I Linda Heightman of Pittsfield, Illinois.

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and